

Message Text

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46

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DIWY-01 IO-10 EB-07 COME-00 AID-05

TRSE-00 CIEP-02 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

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FM AMEMBASSY MEXICO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8579

INFO AMEMBASSY SANTO DOMINGO

UNCLAS MEXICO 5758

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR DR US

SUBJECT: DOMINICAN UNDER SECRETARY GIVES PRESS INTERVIEW

1. DOMINICAN UNDER SECRETARY FOR FOREIGN RELATIONS, DR. LICELOTT MARTE DE BARRIOS, IN MEXICO CITY FOR THE WCIWY SPOKE OUT ON JUNE 27 ON CHARGES RECENTLY MADE BY JUAN BOSCH. "MY COUNTRY IS NOT DEPENDENT ON ANY POWER," SHE ASSERTED. "I REJECT EVERYTHING THAT MR. BOSCH SAID. IN MY COUNTRY THERE ARE NO GROUPS OF DOMINICAN GUERRILLAS WHO ARE ATTEMPTING TO AGITATE TO PREVENT THE LIFTING OF THE ECONOMIC BLOCKADE OF CUBA. WE RESPECT THE SELF-DETERMINATION OF PEOPLES AND SAID, TOGETHER WITH MEXICO AT THE PAST MEETING OF FOREIGN MINISTERS, THAT WE ARE DISPOSED TOWARD A DIALOGUE WITH THE GOVERNMENT OF FIDEL CASTRO."

2. LATER IN THE INTERVIEW, DR. BARRIOS ASSERTED THAT IT IS NO LONGER JUST TO IMPOSE SANCTIONS ON COUNTRIES "BECAUSE OF THEIR IDEOLOGY". AND TO DO SO IS "CONTRARY TO THE SPIRIT OF THE OAS." SHE ADDED THAT HER COUNTRY REJECTS ALL TYPES OF FOREIGN INTERVENTION REGARDLESS OF THE IDEOLOGICAL JUSTIFICATIONS. ASKED WHETHER THERE WERE GROUPS WHICH BELIEVED THE OPPOSITE, DR. BARRIOS REPLIED: "I PERSONALLY DO

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NOT KNOW IF THERE ARE COUNTRIES MANIPULATING THE CUBA QUESTION

FROM BEHIND THE SCENES. I DO NOT THINK THERE ARE SINCE THINGS
HAVE CHANGED A LOT."

3. THE INTERVIEWER ALSO ASKED WHETHER IT WAS TRUE THAT HER
COUNTRY IS "THE PROPERTY OF THE US" (APPARENTLY REFERRING
TO A BOSCH STATEMENT) AND DR. BARRIOS RESPONDED: "MY COUNTRY
IS NOT DEPENDENT ON THE US. THE DOMINICAN REPUBLIC SEEKS TO
DEVELOP ITSELF USING ITS OWN MEANS AND WITH ITS OWN PEOPLE.
IF AT SOME TIME THERE HAS BEEN AN IDENTIFICATION WITH SOME
POWER, IT WAS THOUGHT IN THIS WAY A MORE ACCELERATED DEVELOPMENT
COULD BE ACHIEVED, WHICH DOES NOT MEAN THERE WOULD BE A
CONDITIONAL STATE. (I.E., LOSS OF INDEPENDENCE)."
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